

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION III

Wheeling Office

303 Methodist Bldg., 11th & Chapline Streets

Wheeling, West Virginia 26003

SUBJECT: Army Creek - Bioassessment Work Group Review

DATE 6/1/87

FROM: H. Ronald Preston, Chairman *HRP*
Superfund Bioassessment Work Group

TO: Galena Bendersky, Project Officer (3HW21)
Army Creek Superfund Site

The Bioassessment Work Group recently reviewed the concerns associated with Army Creek (Delaware) and provide the following comments.

Ecological Concerns - Army Creek historically provided spawning and nursery habitat for anadromous such as striped bass and herring. The continual groundwater discharge from the contaminated site has a potential impact on the ecological use.

Data Needs - In order to better evaluate the potential described above, additional sediment chemistry and sediment toxicity tests need to be generated.

Recommendations -

° It is recommended that comprehensive review of sediment chemistry be evaluated for the presence of toxics and their potential impacts to the fisheries. This may require additional sediment sampling and analysis.

° Sediments be collected and elutriate sediment toxicity test with standard test organisms be performed to evaluate actual toxicity from potentially contaminated sites.

° An evaluation of the potential use of Army Creek habitat as a spawning and nursery area in the event that all pollution sources were eliminated.

cc: Harry Harbold (3HW21)
Bioassessment Work Group

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